

GRANTHAM RURAL DISTRICT.

REPORT of the Medical Officer of Health for the Year 1909.

To the Chairman and Members.

GENTLEMEN,

In accordance with Instructions from the Local Government Board, I have the honour of submitting for your consideration my Third Annual Report on the Health and Sanitary Condition of the Rural District, together with other information dealing with the administration of the various Acts for the maintenance of Public Health. I submit a brief summary of the vital statistics, before entering into further details.

S U M M A R Y.

Area of Rural District	85,827 acres.
Rateable Value	£118,042.
Population-Census 1901	12,426.
Population-Estimated 1909	12,575.
Birth Rate per 1,000	23.22.
Death Rate per 1,000	13.6.
Death Rate of Infants under) one year per 1,000)	105.5.
Illegitimate Births	14.

In my Report for 1903, I described the physical characters of your district, the chief occupations of its inhabitants, and the housing of the working classes. During

the Year 1909 the following new buildings have been erected in your district:-

Two cottages at Lavington,
Two houses , Spitalgate Without.
Farm House, Ropsley.

Alterations have been made in the following cases:-

Two shops and one house, Colsterworth,
One house, Ingoldsby,
Two cottages, Woolsthorpe-by-Belvoir.

In all these cases, supervision has been made, and compliance with Bye-Laws required.

WATER SUPPLY OF THE DISTRICT.

Twenty samples of drinking water have been analysed during the year. In the majority of cases the sources of supply were wells, and on the whole the analyses were satisfactory. In last year's report it was stated that the water supply of two villages, Barrowby and Sapperton, was not satisfactory. The sinking of a fresh well at Sapperton has produced a supply of wholesome water.

In the village of Gonerby, it was found that a well was polluted by an adjacent faulty drain, and steps were taken to prevent this, with the result that a pure supply is now obtained, and in the same village a neighbour's quarrel was adjusted by the sinking of a new well, with a satisfactory supply of water.

MILK SUPPLY.

The periodical Inspection of Cowsheds and Dairies

has been carried out. There are 37 registered Cowsheds in the District. The Regulations of the Local Government Board have been carried out to your Inspector's satisfaction.

OTHER FOODS.

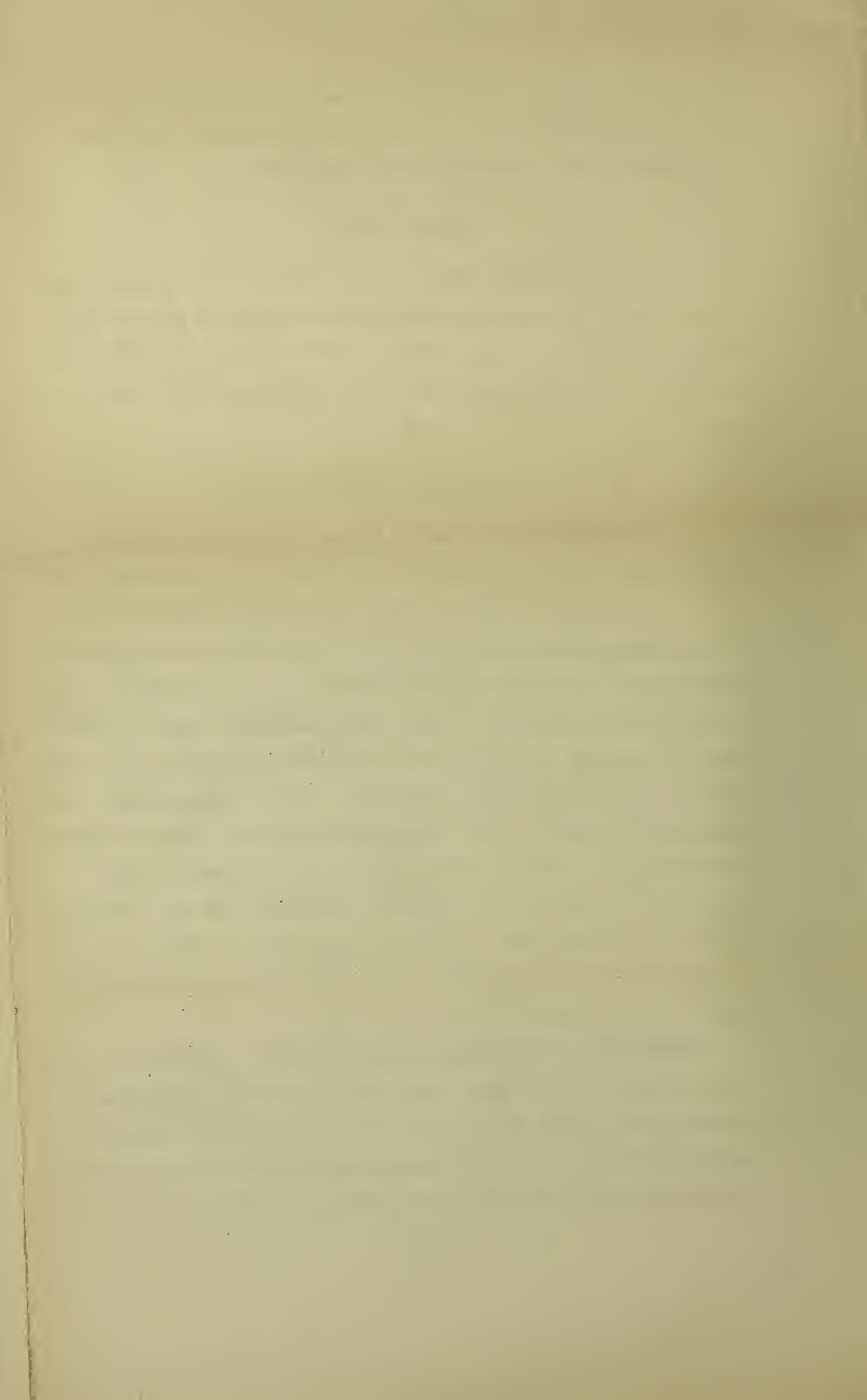
Your Inspector has not found occasion during the year to seize any food unsound, unwholesome or unfit to be consumed. Slaughter houses have been visited, and instructions given, when necessary. No action under the Public Health Act 1875 has been taken.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

Table III shows that 56 cases of infectious disease were notified during the year, -9 more than in the preceding year.

37 cases of Scarlet Fever occurred, 12 being notified in the village of Ancaster. Your Sanitary Officers were greatly handicapped in dealing with this outbreak by overcrowding in two of the affected houses. It was deemed advisable that the patients should be removed to the Isolation Hospital, but there were other cases in the village at the same time, in the Sleaford Rural District, and it was felt that unless all the cases could be removed to Hospital, it was not likely to check the epidemic. The suggestion was made to the Sleaford Authority that all the cases should be so dealt with, but was not agreed to by that Authority. At the present time, February, 1910, there are still cases of Scarlet Fever in the village.

Nine cases of Diphtheria were notified. The cases were of a particularly severe type, and three were fatal, the disease attacking the larynx in all three cases, a condition almost desperate in places where skilled nursing is not to be obtained. One fatal case of erysipelas occurred in an infant.



Four cases of Enteric Fever were notified. Three occurred in the parish of Ingoldsby. Two of the patients in one household died, both being above the age of 65. The third case occurred some months afterwards in a different part of the village. The patient was removed to the Grantham Hospital, and the disease also proved fatal.

The fourth case occurred at South Witham, and was of a mild type.

Careful investigations in all these cases did not reveal any recognisable cause of the disease. Stringent precautions were taken, and it is hoped that there is no endemic condition in either of these villages, liable to cause a fresh occurrence of the disease.

SCHOOLS.

Your Medical Officer has had frequent consultations with the School Medical Officer of the Parts of Kesteven, in reference to the closure of Schools in cases of Infectious Disease, in accordance with the Memorandum of the L. G. B., 1909. The Medical Inspection of School Children in your District is carried out by that Officer.

Closure of Schools has been necessary in several instances for short periods. One School, Ancaster, has, however, been closed for a considerable time owing to the prevalence of Scarlet Fever.

METHODS OF DEALING WITH INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

These methods were outlined in your Medical Officer's Report for 1908. The Isolation Hospital, constructed to hold 12 patients, has not been utilized during the year. Arrangements have been made whereby it can be opened at the very shortest notice.

In the absence of a Steam Disinfector, which your Council does not possess, disinfection of premises and infected articles is at the present time carried out by fumigation, and thorough cleaning.

TUBERCULOSIS.

No voluntary system of notification of this disease is in operation in your district. Your Medical Officer explained the working of the New Tuberculosis Regulations at a meeting of your Council. No notifications were received under the provisions of this Act during the year.

There is no hospital accommodation in your district for the reception of patients suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis.

SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE.

Details are given at some length in the Inspector's Report (appended) of works carried out during the year.

Your Inspector has found it necessary to give much time and consideration to sewers in different parishes, and much remains still to be done.

In the Parish of Barrowby, liquefying tanks have been put down, fitted with automatic apparatus to distribute over a rotary bed of clinker. The resulting effluent is satisfactory. At Hough-on-the-Hill it has been found necessary to undertake extensive works to prevent pollution of streams, some 500 yards of sewer being laid, with liquefying tanks and bacteria bed

FACTORY AND WORKSHOP ACT.

There are no registered Factories in your District.

Frequent visits have been paid to Workshops, with special attention to Bakehouses.

VITAL STATISTICS.

The number of births registered during the year amounts to 292, of which 167 were males and 125 females. There were 14 illegitimate births, -8 males and 6 females.

The birth-rate per thousand for the year on an estimated population of 12,575 is 23.22, corresponding very closely with the average for ten preceding years, 23.4.

The number of deaths was 167, the rate per thousand being 13.6, which is again almost identical with the average, -13.5- of the preceding ten years.

The number of deaths of children under one year is 32. This represents a rate of 109.8 per 1,000 births, and is slightly above the preceding ten years' average, 105-5.

The year's figures correspond so closely with the ten years' average that no particularly striking points are noticed.

An analysis of Table IV, shows that of the 167 deaths at all ages, 79, or very nearly half, occurred after the age of 65, and for the second time in three years, the death of a centenarian is recorded.

Of other causes of death, pulmonary tuberculosis caused 13 deaths, which corresponds closely to 12 in the preceding year. There were only 8 cases of malignant disease, as compared with 17 in 1908, but diseases of the respiratory tract, including influenza, caused more deaths, viz, 32, as compared with 24 in 1908, the increase being probably due to exceptionally severe weather in the

first three months of the year. In connection with the 32 deaths of children under one year, 12 were attributed to disease of the respiratory organs. There was no other obvious factor in the infantile mortality, and the rate, 109.8, per 1,000, may be regarded as fairly satisfactory. The Early Notification of Births Act has not been adopted in your district, and the statistics of the locality suggest that infants are, on the whole, well looked after.

The usual statistical tables are appended, together with the Report of the Sanitary Inspector, with whom your Medical Officer has made a considerable number of systematic visits of inspection during the year.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

CHARLES H. D. ROBBS.

T A B L E I.

VITAL STATISTICS OF WHOLE DISTRICT DURING 1909 & PREVIOUS YEARS.

Name of District-GRANTHAM RURAL.

Year.	Population estimated to mid- dle of each year.	BIRTHS.		TOTAL DEATHS REGISTERED. in the District.			
		Number	Rate.	Under 1 year.		At all ages.	
				No.	Rate per 1,000 births registd.	No.	Rate.
1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.	8.
1899	13160	313	23.86	34	108.2	201	15.27
1900	13153	306	21.25	28	91.5	178	13.6
1901	12426	277	22.27	33	117.1	171	13.76
1902	12444	307	24.8	36	116.5	171	13.74
1903	12500	312	24.7	20	96.18	136	10.83
1904	12509	303	24.22	28	92.46	167	13.35
1905	12517	302	23.32	38	125.7	167	13.5
1906		No data to hand.					
1907	12525	304	24.3	No data.			
1908	12550	281	22.4	27	96	177	14.1
Averages for years 1899-1908.	12643	300	23.4	30.5	105.5	171	13.5
1909	12575	292	23.22	32	109.8	167	13.6.

Rates in Columns 4 and 8 calculated per 1,000 of estimated population.

Area of District in acres)
(exclusive of area cover-) 85,827.
ed by water.)

Total population)
at all ages) 12,426.

1. Institutions within the District receiving sick and infirm persons from outside the District.	11. Institutions within the District receiving sick and infirm persons from the district.	111. Other Institutions the deaths in which have been distributed among the several local- ities in district.
Isolation Hospital, belonging to Grantham Union.	Hospital, Grantham. Union Workhouse, Grantham.	

T A B L E III.

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR 1909.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.	AT ALL AGES.	Cases notified in whole district.						No. of cases removed to hospital from each locality.		
		At ages-Years.						6	7	Total cases removed to Hospital.
		Under1.	1to5.	5to15.	15to25.	25to65.	65&Uq.			
Small-pox.							1			
Cholera.										
Diphtheria	9	4	4	1						
Erysipelas	6	1				3	2			
Scarlet Fever	37		9	17	8	3				
Typhus Fever										
Enteric Fever	4			1		1	2	1		1
Relapsing Fever										
Continued Fever										
Puerperal Fever										
Plague										
TOTALS.	56		14	22	9	7	4.	1		1.

ISOLATION HOSPITAL:Name and Situation-
 Grantham R. D.C., Whalebone lane.

T A B L E IV.

CAUSES OF, AND AGES AT, DEATH DURING YEAR 1909.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	Deaths at the subjoined ages of "Residents" whether occurring in or beyond the district.						
	ALL AGES.	Under 1 year.	1 and under 5.	5 and under 15.	15 and un 25.	25 & un 65.	65 and up.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8.
Small-pox							
Measles	3		3				
Scarlet Fever							
Whooping cough							
Diphtheria	3		1	1	1		
Croup	1		1				
)Typhus							
Fever)Enteric	2						2
)Other continued							
Epidemic Influenza	4					2	2
Cholera							
Plague							
Diarrhoea	2	2					
Enteritis							
Gastritis	3	2	1				
Puerperal Fever							
Erysipelas							
Phthisis (Pulmonary Tuberculosis)	13				7	6	
Other tuberculosis diseases							
Cancer, malignant disease	8					3	5
Bronchitis	19	7		1		1	10
Pneumonia	9	5	1			1	2
pneumia							
Other diseases of respiratory organs	1						1
Alcoholism)							
Cirrhosis of)	2					1	1
liver)							
Venereal diseases							
Premature birth	6	6					
Diseases and accidents of parturition							
Heart Diseases	17			2		5	10
Accidents	3					2	1
Suicides	3					3	
Cerebral Apoplexy	14					2	12
Senile decay	26						26
Parasitism	4	4					
All other causes	24	6	2	2		7	7
ALL CAUSES	167	32	9	6	8	33	79.

T A B L E V.

INFANTILE MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR 1909.

Deaths from stated causes in weeks and months under one year of age.

CAUSE OF DEATH.-	Age-Weeks.					Total under 1 month.	Age-Months.											Total Deaths under 1 year.
	Under 1	1	2	3	4.		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
<u>ALL</u> Certified	8	1	-	2	-	11	3	4	3	2	2	1	1	-	4	1	-	32
<u>CAUSES:-</u> Uncerti- fied.																		
i Common Infectious diseases.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
ii Diarrhoeal Diseases								2			1		1					
iii Wasting Diseases	8	1		2		11	2	1							1			
iv. Tuberculous Diseases.																		
v. Other causes.							1	2	2	2	1	1			3	1		

District-GRANTHAM R.D.C.

Population-12,575.

Births in the year (legitimate 276
(illegitimate 14.

Deaths in the year (legitimate infants 31
(illegitimate infants 1.

Deaths from all Causes at all Ages-167.

ANNUAL REPORT OF INSPECTOR OF NUISANCES.

Gentlemen,

The record kept by your Inspector during the year 1909 shows that he has paid over 300 official visits to various Parishes in the execution of his duties, the distance covered being over 2,350 miles.

NUISANCES.

23 Complaints of Nuisances were received, calling for abatement. Notices were issued in each case after inspection, with satisfactory results. One statutory notice with Magistrates' Order thereon was served in South Witham.

DRAINS.

New Drains and Sewers have been constructed as follows:-

PARISH.		
January	Ingoldsby	Part new 6" sewer.
do.	Hough-on-the-Hill	New 6" sewer.
February	Pickworth	New 6" sewer.
do.	Ropsley	9" stoneware gullies and vent shaft.
June	Burton Coggles	6" sewer.
July	Aisby	Part 9" sewer.
July	Great Gonerby	9" sewer.
July	Woolsthorpe-by-Belvoir	Part new 9" sewer.
August	Manthorpe	New Sewage tank and filter.
September	Boothby Pagnell	New 9" sewer.
November	South Witham	Gullies and part sewer.
December	Hough-on-the-Hill	500 yards of 9" sewer, etc.

DITCHES.

Open ditches receiving sewage have been dug out in eight different parishes.

CESS-POOLS.

Collections of sewage from various Parishes on the septic tank method have been periodically emptied.

OFFENSIVE TRADES.

The renewal of a license of a Knacker's yard at Welby has been refused. Steps are being taken to minimise the nuisance from a Fellmonger's yard at Colsterworth.

CANAL BOATS.

Two boats are registered. They are kept in a satisfactory manner.

Further details of your Inspector's work, particularly those dealing with sewerage disposal, infectious disease, and visits to Workshops, have been dealt with in the Medical Officer's Report.

Yours obediently,

H. CECIL RUDKIN.

